United Nations E/RES/2016/25

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
15 August 2016

2016 session
Agenda item 18 (*f*)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 27 July 2016

[*on the recommendation of the Commission on Population and Development (E/2016/25)*]

2016/25. Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 2015/252 of 22 July 2015, in which it decided that the Commission on Population and Development should review the functioning of its methods of work at its forty-ninth session, in 2016, with a view to further enhancing the impact of the work of the Commission and its contribution to the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling also its resolution 1995/55 of 28 July 1995 and its decision 2005/213 of 31 March 2005, as well as Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/1 of 10 May 2006[1] and decisions 2004/2 of 26 March 2004[2] and 2005/2 of 14 April 2005[3] on the methods of work of the Commission,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, in which the Assembly called for the harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions, and emphasized the need to strengthen the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and recalling Council resolution 1981/83 of 24 July 1981, in which it instructed its subsidiary bodies to rationalize their agendas and programmes of work, resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982, in which it recommended that the documentation and programme of work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council be rationalized in order to enable them to effectively implement the mandates entrusted to them, and decision 1983/163 of 22 July 1983 with regard to the integration or consolidation of documents that deal with related or similar themes, with a view to rationalizing documentation, without having a negative impact on their technical quality, as necessary,

Recognizing the key role that the Economic and Social Council plays in achieving balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

---

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[2] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 5* (E/2004/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[3] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 5* (E/2005/25), chap. I, sect. B.

16-13483 (E)

Please recycle

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[4] and the key actions for its further implementation,[5]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 49/128 of 19 December 1994, in which it was decided that the Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, and a revitalized Population Commission [6] should constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that would play the primary role in the follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 65/234 of 22 December 2010 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, in which the Assembly decided to extend the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014 and ensure its follow-up in order to fully meet its goals and objectives,

Welcoming the adoption of General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and stressing the importance of the implementation of this new ambitious Agenda,

Emphasizing the breadth of experience of non-governmental organizations in the follow-up to the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation and the need to continue to promote their effective participation in and valuable contribution to the work of the Commission on Population and Development, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Reaffirms* the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[4] and the key actions for its further implementation[5] as well as the outcomes of its reviews, takes note of the outcome documents of the regional review conferences on population and development, and stresses that the outcome documents of the regional review conferences provide region-specific guidance on population and development beyond 2014 for each region that adopted the particular outcome document;

2. *Also reaffirms* the primary mandate of the Commission on Population and Development, derived from General Assembly resolution 49/128, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission would monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and would advise the Economic and Social Council thereon;

3. *Further reaffirms* the central role of the Commission in coordinating the review and assessment of the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, including addressing gaps and challenges to implementation;

4. *Affirms* that the Commission will contribute to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[7] within its existing mandate, and that the contribution of the Commission should reflect the integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as their interlinkages;

---

[4] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex.

[6] The Population Commission was renamed the Commission on Population and Development pursuant to para. 24 of General Assembly resolution 49/128.

[7] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

5. *Decides* that the Commission will streamline its agenda and programme of work by consolidating agenda items and rationalizing related documentation and reports without having a negative impact on their technical quality, with a view to enabling the Commission to effectively perform its mandate and to increasing complementarity and avoiding duplication;

6. *Also decides* that the Commission shall continue its current practice of selecting one special theme for each annual session on the basis of progress, gaps, recurrent challenges and evolving issues relevant to population and development based on the Programme of Action and the key actions to accelerate its further implementation, while also taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a view to fully implementing all of its mandated tasks and contributing to the work of the Economic and Social Council, including by building synergies and, in the context of its working methods, as appropriate, taking into account the thematic annual focus of the Council and of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 68/1, as part of a multi-year work programme;

7. *Further decides* to include under the item on the general debate two sub-items, one focusing on actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action at the global, regional and national levels, and one focusing on the special theme of the Commission;

8. *Encourages* all Member States, in their statements in the general debate, to give emphasis to national and regional experiences, achievements, challenges and lessons learned;

9. *Notes* the contribution of non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors towards the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014, and reaffirms that, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council and with Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, they should continue to be given the opportunity to actively participate in the work of the Commission;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to convene expert meetings and informal technical briefings on the special theme prior to each annual session of the Commission;

11. *Requests* the Bureau of the Commission to make all efforts to improve communication with Member States by, inter alia, circulating the minutes of its meetings in a cumulative form to the members of the respective regional groups within 10 days of the meeting;

12. *Affirms* that the resolutions and decisions of the Commission will be negotiated and that the outcome of the discussions on the special theme will continue to contain substantive and action-oriented recommendations for furthering the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation beyond 2014, and encourages the Bureau to take the necessary steps in this regard;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional groups nominating their representatives as early as possible, and no later than the last day of an annual session, so that the election of members of the Bureau for the next session at the closure of the current session can proceed on schedule, thereby facilitating the active participation of all Bureau members throughout the process of preparing for the next session;

14. *Encourages* the regional commissions of the United Nations to continue to contribute to the work of the Commission, in collaboration, where appropriate, with other intergovernmental organizations, especially regional organizations, and other United Nations entities;

15. *Reaffirms* the complementary roles of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund, within their existing mandates, in supporting the efficient work of the Commission;

16. *Decides* that the Commission may, at the request of Member States, further review its methods of work in view of the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

48th plenary meeting
27 July 2016